

## AMENDED CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Claims 1 through 26 are cancelled.

27. (New Claim) A household slipper which is adapted to protect and comfort the foot, said household slipper comprising;

a slipper sole made of a flexible but protective material of sufficient thickness and substance to prevent injury to the foot from stepping upon small rigid objects, said sole being enlarged to expand beyond the circumference of the slipper a sufficient distance due provide protection and cushioning from collisions with small objects which may be found about the house;

said slipper further comprising, at the front and over and about the toe, a protective assembly, said protective assembly further comprising a compartment defined by an outer layer and inner layer, said compartment further housing a protective material which is shaped to cover over the front of a person's foot and toes and is of sufficient strength to absorb the shock from the fall of small household objects, such as a beverage can, bottled drink, book, or small appliance, in order to avoid injury to a person's foot enclosed therein;

the back of said slipper being further adapted with a gripping member, said gripping member further comprising a slight inwardly protruding member at the top of the rear opening of the shell of the slipper which is adapted to make and maintain

contact with a person's heel;

at least on side of said slipper is further adapted with one or more ventilation holes in order to facilitate the ventilation of a person's enclosed foot; and in which said sole is further adapted with an arch supporting portion adapted to provide additional support to the arch of a person's foot.

28. (New claim) The household slipper described in claim 1 in which said protective assembly outer layer is made of a fabric which is suitable for decoration or decorative display and in which said inner layer is made of a material adapted to afford comfort to a person's foot.

29. (New claim) The household slipper described in claim 27 in which said sole may be made of a flexible semi-rigid material adapted with air pockets.

30. (New claim) The household slipper described in claim 27 in which said protective layer may be made of a flexible and semirigid material adapted with air holes.

31 (New claim) The household slipper described in claim 28 in which said sole may be made of a flexible semi-rigid material adapted with air pockets.

32. (New claim) The household slipper described in claim 28 in which said protective layer may be made of a flexible and semirigid material adapted with air pockets.